

PACFA Update

Colorado Department of Agriculture

November 2012

Winter Edition

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Proposed Rule Change for PACFA

A Sunset Review in 2009 raised some questions and concerns by the public and stakeholders regarding the consistency and fairness of the PACFA regulations, as well as the efficiency of the program. In an attempt to provide better service and more efficient oversight, the staff undertook several projects. One of these projects is to take a close look at the parts of the program that were causing misunderstanding. The main factor here was rules



Champ, who will be greatly missed!!

that were redundant and hard to interpret which not only made enforcement difficult, but also discouraged pet facilities owners who found it difficult to sort through and understand the tangle of regulations. Since 2010 the program staff has been discussing how to revise the rule to make it easier to understand. Additionally, staff wanted to accommodate a request from licensees for some form of inspection check off sheet. In October 2012, we completed a first draft of a proposed rule.

The official process will recommend the repeal of the existing rule and the enactment of the new proposed rule. This new rule consolidates the requirements into one easier to follow document by removing redundant language and providing requirements based on species of animal rather than facility type. For example, many cleaning requirements were the same across the board for each facility type. The new rule has one section for cleaning and sanitation that applies to all types of facilities. In order to accomplish this, language from the old rule was taken for use in the new rule. In some cases the language was modified to provide clarity. This review and revision process is being done to simplify the PACFA rules, and to comply with an executive order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of state rules. Our goal is to have rules in place that pet facility owners understand so that compliance is easier.

A draft of the proposed rule can be found on our web site www.colorado.gov/ag/animals/pacfa along with a FAQ sheet to answer some of your questions. Additionally we have posted several other documents including a list of items that are new and a worksheet to help understand the enclosure requirements. The process of improving the rule will be ongoing with stakeholder meetings and conference calls scheduled to take comments and answer questions. All licensees are encouraged to review the proposed rule and submit written comments by April 1, 2013. The official process for rule change will begin in the fall of 2013 with a public hearing and then presentation of a final draft to the Agricultural Commission.

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For reference, meetings have been scheduled on the following dates:

December 10, 2012 conference call to answer questions 11-12am

Call in number 1-877-820-7831 access code 773198#

conference call to answer questions 2-3pm

Call in number 1-877-820-7831 access code 773198#

February 7, 2013

March 12, 2013 meeting to answer questions 1-4pm

Location: 700 Kipling Street Lakewood, CO 80215 4th floor Plants Testing room

Information about the meetings can also be found on the calendar page at our web site.

Fall Symposium Notes

On October 16, 2012 the PACFA program presented the PACFA Fall Symposium. This event was held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds which was large enough to allow additional space for more licensees to attend compared to our first Symposium last spring.

The use of the Jefferson County meeting room and kitchen was sponsored by Carla Zinanti, the director of the Jefferson County Animal Control Division, who made it possible for us to use the facility at no charge to PACFA or licensees. Thank you, Carla, for your support and to the fairgrounds for their generosity. This one-day event was offered as a no cost resource for any PACFA licensee. The event was advertised through a flyer that was emailed and posted on the PACFA web page.

The morning began with a brief introduction to the PACFA staff by Chris Thompson.

Katherine Hancock-Tubbs from the Red Cross presented an interesting and thought provoking demonstration on first aid and CPR for animals and we even learned the Heimlich maneuver for saving a choking dog. Kathy has been teaching for the American Red Cross for 30 years, is an instructor trainer and teaches all the classes that the Red Cross offers. She also taught school with special needs children and preschool for 15 years. Kathy brought dog and cat manikins that we were able to practice the CPR techniques on. Kathy is available to animal related businesses for first aid and CRP certifications. She can be contacted at Kathryn.Hancock-Tubbs@redcross.org.

Licensees had lunch on their own with many available restaurant choices close to the fairgrounds. Jennifer Leslie, the PACFA inspector for Northern Colorado presented The Good, The Bad and The Ugly. This interactive presentation was designed to give PACFA licensees perspective of the inspection process through the eyes of an inspector. The audience members had the opportunity to identify violations from case studies and to discuss remedies. The intended goal of helping licensees avoid common pitfalls was met and hopefully attendees will now ace inspections. A lot of good information about inspection was discussed. Our day ended with an open discussion with PACFA Administrator, Dr. Kate Anderson and PACFA inspectors Cindy Thompson, Chris Thompson, Jennifer Leslie and Katie Parker who answered questions from the meeting attendees. Inspection protocol, inspection reports and the new proposed rule change were discussed and questions answered.

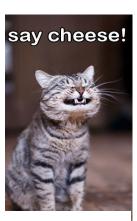
The PACFA Fall Symposium 2012 was a huge success. We are grateful to everyone who attended and also for the feedback we received. The venue was donated, helping us offer this opportunity at no charge. The presentations offered information useful to any PACFA licensee. The seminar also offered a rare opportunity to meet and interact with other PACFA facility owners and staff. We are excited to announce that we will continue to offer seminars for PACFA licensees. Watch for the date and location announcement in your email and on our website www.colorado.gov/ag/animals/pacfa and be sure to register early if interested as space may be limited.



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Say Cheese!

Have you noticed your inspector taking pictures at your facility? Inspectors have been, and will continue to be, taking photographs consistently during our inspections and investigations. Pictures of your facility help us to ensure consistency from one inspection to the next, improve consistency between inspectors, provide documentation of conditions (both good and bad), and serve as reference for future uses. Please don't be surprised, threatened or offended when your inspector photographs your facility – this is another method to help us improve the program for you!



"Brachycephalic" Dogs

Snort, snort! Gasp, pant, snort!

Sound familiar? If you work with "brachycephalic" dogs, those with short muzzles and flat faces, it might.

But there are dangers, sometimes hidden, that can accompany the distinctive look of a brachycephalic dog. The short muzzle, compact skull and compressed upper respiratory system which are characteristic of a brachycephalic dog can cause problems which range from minor to life-threatening. All brachycephalic dogs, even those without significant problems, share several traits which require their caregivers to follow certain guidelines to ensure their pets' health and safety.

Temperature Intolerance

Brachycephalic dogs are inefficient panters. The brachycephalic dog is therefore more prone to overheat than a long-snouted dog, and precautions must be taken against the dangers of overheating, which can include heatstroke, collapse and even death. Short-snouted dogs should be offered frequent breaks for cold water and rest during playtime and exercise, particularly on warm days.

Tracheal Collapse

Dogs with compressed respiratory systems can be prone to tracheal collapse or other trachea-related breathing difficulties, because occasionally a brachycephalic dog's tracheal cartilage may be weak or abnormally shaped, or the trachea itself may be too narrow for normal respiration.

Brachycephalic Syndrome: Stenotic Nares and Elongated Soft Palate

Flat-faced breeds sometimes inherit certain congenital defects that alone or together can be called Brachy-cephalic Syndrome.

Conditions of Brachycephalic Syndrome include stenotic nares, or extremely small nostrils that do not allow sufficient air intake; and an elongated soft palate that can block a dog's airway. Taken together or separately, these two conditions are very serious and can present a severe and continual inability to breathe adequately.

Taken from http://voices.yahoo.com



Let's Play!

Boarding/Training facilities and Grooming facilities may co-mingle pets with different owners if they have written consent from the owners and if the pets are supervised. Supervisors of comingled pets must:

- *be at least 16 years old;
- *have immediate access to these pets;
- *directly supervise these pets; and,
- *constantly supervise these pets.

Additionally, there must be at least one supervisor for every 15 co-mingled dogs and the number of dogs in a single enclosure or common area can not exceed 60.

FAQs

- Q. Can I groom one pet and supervise co-mingled dogs at the same time?
- A. No, a groomer in the process of grooming a pet does not meet the requirements of a supervisor.
- Q. There are a few dogs in my day care that get along exceptionally well. Can I put them in the same enclosure for naps?
- A. Yes, if you have written consent from each of the owners and if the pets are directly and constantly supervised while they are co-mingled. An owner cannot waive the supervision requirement.



Preparing for Renewal

License renewal time is quickly approaching again. Now would be the time to start preparing. If your mailing address has changed, please contact us right away to ensure that you'll receive your application packet.

If you have stats due, please begin gathering them to submit with your application. Please feel free to call or email our office with any questions that you may have. Begin watching for your renewal packet sometime in late January.









Pet Animal Care Facilities Act Division of Animal Industry 700 Kipling St., Suite 4000 Lakewood, CO 80215-8000

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